

Remarks

The present application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 17, 2007. By the foregoing Amendments, independent claim 1 and claims dependent there-from, namely claims 1-3, are amended to further highlight novel aspects of the present invention, and new claims 10 -11 are added to the application. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by the amendments, as all of the amended matter was described or illustrated in the drawings, written specification, and claims of the present application as originally filed.

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lasvignes (US 5,423,853). The Examiner further rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Lasvignes (US 5,423,853) in view of Lew (US 5,448,777).

Claims 1-3

Independent claim 1 has been amended by the foregoing amendments to further highlight novel aspects of the present invention.

As amended, claim 1 is directed to a medical treatment device for stimulating spinal cord reflex points on a finger, and further requires:

a first finger grip part having first and second portions, the first portion of the first finger grip part defining a curved inner surface with a curvature generally corresponding to the curvature of a finger, the second portion of the first finger grip part extending from the first portion of the first finger grip part and defining a terminal end portion;

a second finger grip part having first and second portions, the first portion of the second finger grip part defining a curved inner surface with a curvature generally corresponding to the curvature of a finger, the second portion of the second finger grip part extending from the first portion of the second finger grip part and defining a

terminal end portion;

a hinge disposed at the second portions of the first and second finger parts for hingeably coupling the first and second finger grip parts, the hinge coupled with a spring disposed about the hinge for applying a spring force to bias the first and second grip parts to a closed position about the hinge, and the first and second grip parts being in an open position when a gripping pressure is applied to the terminal end portion of the second portion of the first finger grip part and to the terminal end portion of the second portion of the second finger grip part; and

a plurality of pressure protrusions disposed on the curved inner surface of at least one of the first and second finger grip parts, the pressure protrusions made of a metal material and applying a predetermined amount of stimulating pressure to the segmental spinal cord reflex points on the finger by the spring force of the spring.

[Emphases added.]

Lasvignes (US 5,423,853) discloses a pain relief clip for an ear consisting of a first plate 1 for placing on a front portion of an ear, a second plate 2 for placing on a rear portion of the ear, and an elongated connector of intertwined shape connecting the first and second plates 1 and 2.

As such Lasvignes discloses only a pain relief clip for an ear, and it is not related to a medical treatment device of the present invention for stimulating spinal cord reflex points on a finger.

Moreover, Lasvignes fails to disclose the following limitations of the present invention as claimed in claims 1-3.

Lasvignes fails to disclose a first finger grip part having first and second portions, in which the first portion of the first finger grip part defines a curved inner surface with a curvature generally corresponding to the curvature of a finger, and in which the second portion of the first finger grip part extends from the first portion of the first finger grip part and defines a terminal end portion.

Moreover, Lasvignes also fails to disclose a second finger grip part having first and second portions, in which the first portion of the second finger grip part defines a curved inner surface with a curvature generally corresponding to the curvature of a finger, and in which the second portion of the second finger grip part extends from the first portion of the second finger grip part and defining a terminal end portion.

Furthermore, Lasvignes fails to disclose a hinge disposed at the second portions of the first and second finger parts for hingeably coupling the first and second finger grip parts.

Furthermore, Lasvignes also fails to disclose that the hinge is coupled with a spring disposed about the hinge for applying a spring force to bias the first and second grip parts to a closed position about the hinge.

Lasvignes further fails to disclose that the first and second grip parts is in an open position when a gripping pressure is applied to the terminal end portion of the second portion of the first finger grip part and to the terminal end portion of the second portion of the second finger grip part.

Lasvignes further fails to disclose that the pressure protrusions made of a metal material and applying a predetermined amount of stimulating pressure to the segmental spinal cord reflex points on the finger by the spring force of the spring.

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing, claims 1-3 as amended are patentably distinct over Lasvignes, under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) or 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Lew (US 5,448,777), on the other hand, discloses a therapeutic glove 10 including pressure pads 54, 78, and 112 made of aluminum, magnetic material or stainless steel.

As such, Lew discloses only a therapeutic glove with multiple peaks or protrusions for applying pressure to specific locations on an individual's entire hand, and it is not related to a medical treatment device of the present invention for stimulating spinal cord reflex points on a finger.

Moreover, as is the same with Lasvignes as discussed above, Lew also fails to disclose the following limitations of the present invention as claimed in claims 1-3.

Lew fails to disclose a first finger grip part having first and second portions, in which the first portion of the first finger grip part defines a curved inner surface with a curvature generally corresponding to the curvature of a finger, and in which the second portion of the first finger grip part extends from the first portion of the first finger grip part and defines a terminal end portion.

Moreover, Lew also fails to disclose a second finger grip part having first and second portions, in which the first portion of the second finger grip part defines a curved inner surface with a curvature generally corresponding to the curvature of a finger, and in which the second portion of the second finger grip part extends from the first portion of the second finger grip part and defining a terminal end portion.

Furthermore, Lew fails to disclose a hinge disposed at the second portions of the first and second finger parts for hingeably coupling the first and second finger grip parts.

Furthermore, Lew also fails to disclose that the hinge is coupled with a spring disposed about the hinge for applying a spring force to bias the first and second grip parts to a closed position about the hinge.

Lew further fails to disclose that the first and second grip parts is in an open position when a gripping pressure is applied to the terminal end portion of the second portion of the first finger grip part and to the terminal end portion of the second portion of the second finger grip part.

Lew further fails to disclose that the pressure protrusions made of a metal material and applying a predetermined amount of stimulating pressure to the segmental spinal cord reflex points on the finger by the spring force of the spring.

Accordingly, similar to Lasvignes as discussed above, Lew also fails to disclose the above identified limitations of the present invention as claimed in claims 1-3.

Therefore, claims 1-3 as amended are patentably distinct under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over

Lasvignes in view of Lew.

Moreover, as Lasvignes and Lew each fails to disclose the above identified various limitations of the invention, a rejection of claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. 103 would be inappropriate because there can be no motivation to modify or combine the teachings of Lasvignes with those of Lew to reach at the present invention as claimed.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-3 are patentable over the references of record. Reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and remark is earnestly requested.

Claims 10 and 11

Newly introduced claims 10-11 are also directed to a medical treatment device for stimulating spinal cord reflex points on a finger, and further require as recited in independent claim 10:

a first finger grip part having first and second portions, the first portion of the first finger grip part defining a curved inner surface with a curvature generally corresponding to the curvature of a finger, the second portion of the first finger grip part extending in a generally rearward direction from the curved first portion and having a hinge portion integrally formed with the second portion;

a second finger grip part having first and second portions, the first portion of the second finger grip part defining a curved inner surface with a curvature generally corresponding to the curvature of a finger, the second portion of the second finger grip part extending in a generally rearward direction from the curved first portion and having a hinge portion integrally formed with the second portion, the hinge portion of the second finger grip part coupled with the hinge portion of the first finger grip part with a hinge pin inserted there-through and thereby forming a hinge for hingeably coupling the first and second finger grip parts;

a coil spring disposed about the hinge, the coil spring having first and second

terminal ends and a coil portion between the first and second terminal ends, with one of the first and second terminal ends pressing the second portion of the first finger grip part in a first direction and the other one of the first and second terminal ends pressing the second portion of the second finger grip part in a second direction opposite to the first direction; and

a plurality of pressure protrusions disposed on the curved inner surface of at least one of the first and second finger grip parts, the pressure protrusions made of a metal material and applying a predetermined amount of stimulating pressure to the segmental spinal cord reflex points of the finger by a spring force of the coil spring.
[Emphases added.]

As discussed above, Lasvignes discloses only a pain relief clip for an ear, and it is not related to a medical treatment device of the present invention for stimulating spinal cord reflex points on a finger. Moreover, Lasvignes fails to disclose each and every element of the present invention recited above as claimed in claims 10-11.

As discussed above, Lew discloses only a therapeutic glove with multiple peaks or protrusions for applying pressure to specific locations on an individual's entire hand, and it is not related to a medical treatment device of the present invention for stimulating spinal cord reflex points on a finger. Moreover, as is the same with Lasvignes as discussed above, Lew also fails to disclose each and every element of the present invention recited above as claimed in claims 10-11.

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing, claims 10-11 are patentably distinct under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the references of record.

Moreover, as Lasvignes and Lew each fails to disclose the above identified various limitations of the invention, there would be no motivation to modify or combine the teachings of Lasvignes with those of Lew to reach at the present invention as claimed in claims 10-11.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims pending in this

application, namely claims 1-3 and 10-11, are in order for allowance. Reconsideration and early notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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